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Purpose of Amendment (describe the reason for amending original submission): I forgot to include the trip invitation in my original post-travel disclosure.

(Signature of Traveler)

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August 22, 2019

Michael Callesen
Policy Analyst
Senate Foreign Relations Committee
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Michael:

World Vision and Save the Children are pleased to invite you on a unique Learning Trip to Malawi. There, you will have the opportunity to see firsthand how U.S. investments are working to address Malawi's key development challenges and improve the health of vulnerable populations. The trip will take place from September 28 – October 5, 2019 (including travel days) and include meetings with U.S., Malawian, and NGO partners, visits to program sites in the field, and interactions with community workers and those who benefit from these programs.

We hope this trip will be a resource for your office as you consider the U.S. Government's role in overseas development assistance, in particular maternal and child health, nutrition, and early child development. On the trip, you'll visit World Vision, Save the Children, and partner programming focused on solving key challenges in these areas. You'll have the opportunity to interact with community workers and beneficiaries, as well as witness innovative development solutions that are empowering hundreds of thousands of Malawians. You'll also dialogue with government officials who implement these solutions on a local and national stage.

Despite over 50 years of peaceful independence, Malawi remains one of the poorest countries in the world, with more than half of the country's 19 million people living below the poverty line. In FY18, Congress appropriated more than \$250 million for foreign assistance to Malawi, with more than 75 percent supporting the health sector. Although Malawi continues to score poorly on major health indicators for maternal, infant, and under-5 mortality, Malawi has achieved dramatic gains by focusing on the improved delivery of essential health services. The Government of Malawi reduced maternal mortality by 53 percent between 1990 and 2013, and Malawi is one of few sub-Saharan African countries that achieved Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 for child survival by 2015. Even with the gains in child health, 37 percent of Malawian children suffer from chronic malnutrition. Over a third of established positions in the health sector are vacant, and there is a perpetual shortage of qualified health workers in facilities across the country. Such tremendous health challenges, combined with constrained economic resources and marginalized women and youth, place a significant burden on the health system. USAID programs improve social development and increase sustainable livelihoods. Our partnership with the government and Malawians is based on true accountability and collaboration.

We hope that you will be able to participate in this exciting educational opportunity. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Zachritz
Vice President, Advocacy & Government Relations
World Vision US

Michael Klosson
Vice President, Policy and Humanitarian Response
Save the Children

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